IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE) STATEMENT
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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith are patents, publications or other information [attached hereto and listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 (modified)] which may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56.

This Information Disclosure Statement:

- (a) [X] accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith. 37 CFR § 1.97(a).
- (b) [] is filed within three months after the filing date of the application or within three months after the date of entry of the national stage of a PCT application as set forth in 37 CFR § 1.491.
- (c) [] as far as is known to the undersigned, is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.
- (d) [] is filed after the first office action and more than three months after the application's filing date or PCT national stage date of entry filing but, as far as is known to the undersigned, prior to the mailing date of either a final rejection or a notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, and is accompanied by either the fee (\$180) set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) or a certification as specified in 37 CFR § 1.97(e), as checked below.

(e) [] is filed after the mailing date of either a final rejection or a notice of allowance, whichever occurred first, and is accompanied by the fee (\$180) set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(i)(1) and a certification as specified in 37 CFR § 1.97(e), as checked below. This document is to be considered as a petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement.

[If either of boxes (d) or (e) are checked above, the following "certification" under 37 CFR § 1.97(e) may need to be completed.] The undersigned certifies that:

- (f) [] Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication mailed from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
- (g) [] No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication mailed from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

A list of the patent(s) or publication(s) is set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449 (Modified).

A copy of the items on PTO-1449 (Modified) is supplied herewith:

(h) [] each (i) [X] none (j) [] only those listed below:

Those patent(s) or publication(s) which are marked with an asterisk (*) in the attached form PTO-1449 (Modified) are not supplied because they were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application no., filed and relied upon in this application for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO-1449 (Modified) is:

(k) [X] not given

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(1)	IJ	given for each listed item
(m)	[]	given for only non-English language listed item(s) [Required]
(n)	[]	is in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to

the relevant portions of the references [copy attached].

The Examiner is reminded that a "concise explanation of the relevance" of the submitted items "may be nothing more than identification of the particular figure or paragraph of the patent or publication which has some relation to the claimed invention," MPEP § 609.

While the information and references disclosed in this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(a) exists. It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.98 and MPEP § 609 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

By:

Respectfully submitted,

SEYFARTH SHAW LLP

Dated:

Timothy J. Keefer

Reg. No. 35,567

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Atty. Docket No: 37388-405800

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Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449/PTO Application Number Filing Date Herewith INFORMATION DISCLOSURE First Named Inventor BRASH, Kenneth George STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Art Unit N/A (Use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** N/A 37388-405800 Attorney Docket Number

Sheet 1

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Examiner	Cite No.1	Document Number	U. S. PATENT D Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where
Initials*		No.¹ MM-DD-YYYY Number-Kind Code² (f known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US-			
•		US-			
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		US-			
	<u> </u>	US-			

		FORE	IGN PATENT DOCU	JMENTS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
		Country Code ³ "Number ⁴ "Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	₽
		WO 01/83317 A1	11/08/2001	Mitsubishi Australia		
		WO 00/23350	04/27/2000	Mitsubishi Australia		
		EP 0353021B2	10/18/1995	Transfresh Corporation		
		EP 0136042B1	01/08/1992	Transfresh Corporation		
		DE 4306064A1	09/01/1994	GFD INGENIEUR		

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	
2.3		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.